

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An ascension/descension apparatus, comprising:
a track connected to a vertical surface; and
a portable platform portion detachably connectable to the track such that the portable platform portion can move upwardly and downwardly along the track.

2. The ascension/descension apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a chain system connected to the track for raising and lowering the portable platform portion.

3. The ascension/descension apparatus of claim 2, wherein the chain system includes at least one chain, and further comprising a motor for rotating the chain.

4. The ascension/descension apparatus of claim 3, further comprising a control unit connected to the portable platform portion such that an operator of the apparatus can control the motor from the control unit.

5. The ascension/descension apparatus of claim 4, further comprising a motor control unit in communication with the control unit and the motor, wherein the motor control unit is for receiving signals from the control unit.

6. The ascension/descension apparatus of claim 5, wherein the control unit is in wireless communication with the motor control unit.

7. The ascension/descension apparatus of claim 4, wherein the control unit includes at least one pedal.
8. The ascension/descension apparatus of claim 1, wherein the vertical surface includes a surface of a utility pole.
9. The ascension/descension apparatus of claim 8, wherein the utility pole includes utility equipment connected to the pole.
10. The pole ascension apparatus of claim 9, wherein the pole is a telephone pole.
11. An ascension/descension apparatus, comprising:
a portable platform portion; and
means for raising and lowering the portable platform, wherein the portable platform portion is detachably connectable to the means for raising and lowering.
12. The ascension/descension apparatus of claim 11, wherein the means for raising and lowering includes:
a track, wherein the portable platform portion is detachably connectable to the track;
a chain system for moving the portable platform portion along the track; and
a motor in communication with the chain system.

13. The ascension/descension apparatus of claim 12, further comprising a control unit connected to the portable platform portion such that an operator of the apparatus can control the motor from the control unit.

14. The ascension/descension apparatus of claim 13, further comprising a motor control unit in communication with the control unit and the motor, wherein the motor control unit is for receiving signals from the control unit.

15. The ascension/descension apparatus of claim 14, wherein the control unit is in wireless communication with the motor control unit.

16. The ascension/descension apparatus of claim 11, wherein the means for raising and lowering includes a hydraulic lift system.

17. A method of traversing a vertical surface, comprising:
connecting a portable platform portion to a track, wherein the track includes a chain system; and
activating the chain system to raise the portable platform portion such that the portable platform portion ascends the vertical surface.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising:
activating the chain system to lower the portable platform portion such that the portable platform portion descends the vertical surface; and

disconnecting the portable platform portion from the track.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein activating the chain system includes transmitting a wireless signal to a motor control system, wherein the motor control system is in communication with a motor that drives at least one chain of the chain system.

20. The method of claim 18, further comprising connecting the chain system to a utility pole.